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SAN JOSE, Costa Rica

Reagan- Cia

President Reagan denied any knowledge today of a report that at least 150 CIA agents are in Honduras helping to mount a paramilitary operation to overthrow the leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Reagan was asked about the report in the New York Times before he began a meeting with Costa Rican President Alberto Luis Monge. He was scheduled to fly to Honduras later in the day for talks with Presidents Roberto Suazo Cordova of Honduras and Efraim Rios Montt of Guatemala.

"I never discuss matters of national security or things of that kind," Reagan told reporters at the Costa Rican presidential palace.

Asked if he could confirm the report, he said, "No, and I doubt if The New York Times can."

When pressed further, he said, "I don't know where they get such ideas."

The Reagan administration has consistently refused to discuss reports that it is seeking to destabilize the leftist Nicaraguan government and that the CIA is training former Somoza guardsmen on Honduras' southern border with Nicaragua.

EXCERPTED